

Inventory Number: M. 17-54
Quarry Master's House
Montgomery Co., MD
C. Mazurek
October 22, 1997
Section 7.1

Addendum

The Quarry Master's House located at 16710 River Road in Seneca Creek State Park has changed significantly since the last survey of this structure in 1979. It entered the curatorship program of the Department of Natural Resources with Bob and Loreto Albiol undertaking the restoration.

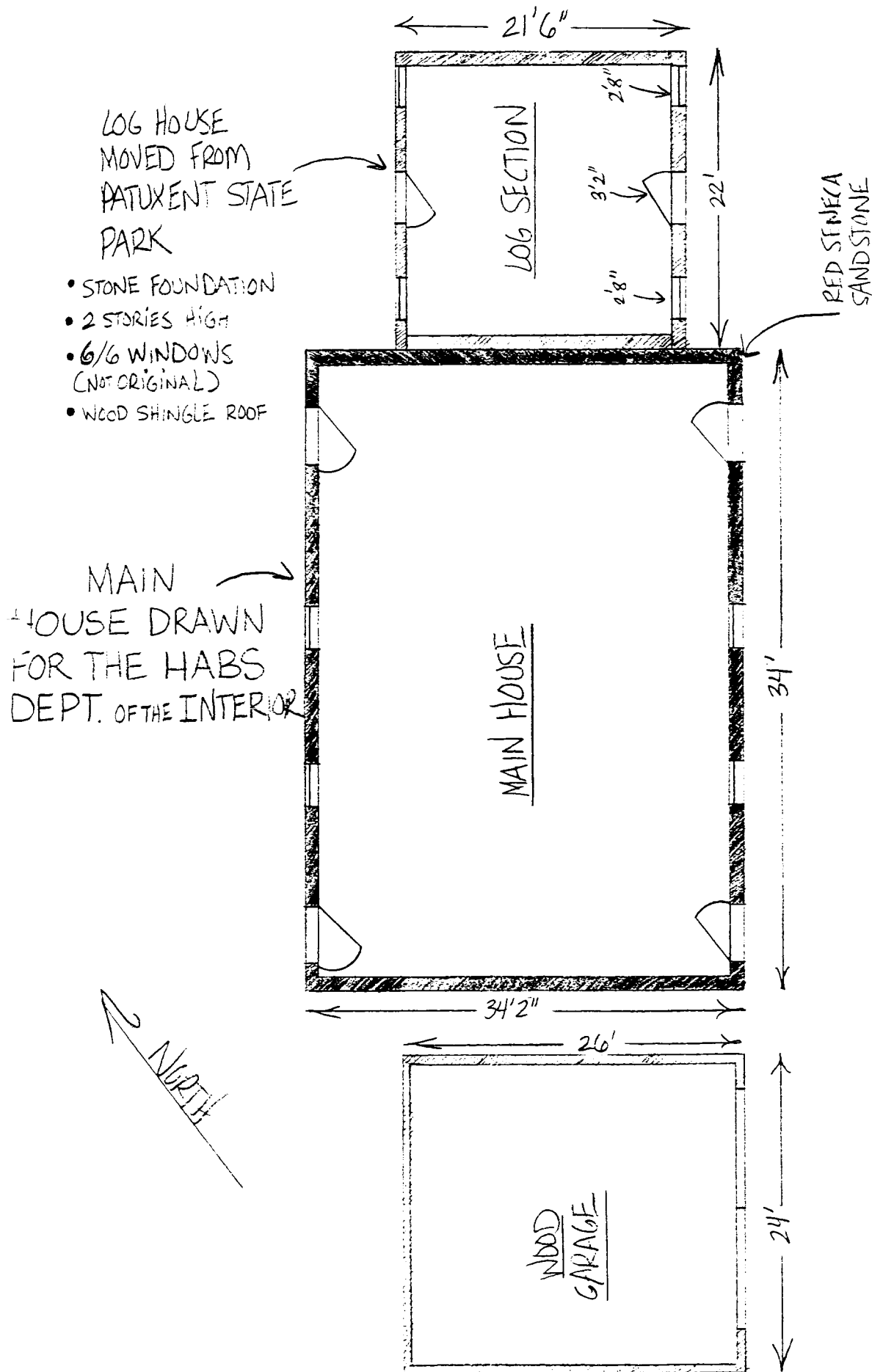
The entire structure was in an advanced state of disrepair and needed major structural repair to both the Seneca red sandstone, of which comprises the bulk of the building material, and the various wooden elements. Walls were reconstructed, the tin roof was replaced with wood shingles, and in addition plumbing, electrical, windows and doors were added. A log house was reconstructed on the east side of the house, which was moved from Patuxent State Park. On the west side of the house a wood two car garage was built.

The grounds have also been improved surrounding the house with trees and gardens planted, most notably a circular garden patio to the north of the house.

This restoration has been immensely successful with the original features of the house preserved along with modern conveniences added that make this house functional.

QUARRY MASTER'S HOUSE (ADDITIONS)
 SENECA CREEK STATE PARK; MONTGOMERY CO., MD
 DRAWN BY C. MAZUREK, OCTOBER 17, 1997

M: 17-54





M 17-54

QUARRY MASTER'S HS.

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

11/97

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

EAST ELEVATION

1 OF 6



M 17-54

QUARRY MASTER'S HOUSE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

11/97

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

N.E. ELEVATION

2 OF 6



M 17-54

QUARRY MASTER'S HS.

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

11/97

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

N.W. ELEVATION

30FG



M 17-54

QUARRY MASTER'S HS.

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

11/97

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

WEST ELEVATION

4 OF 6



M 17-54

QUARRY MASTER'S HS.

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

11/97

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

WEST ELEVATION OF LOG ADDITION

5 of 6



M 17-54

QUARRY MASTER'S HS.

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

11/97

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DETAIL OF LOG ADDITION (EAST)

6 OF 6

M: 17-54

c. 1830

Quarry Master's House
(Seneca Quarry Stone Duplex)
North bank of Potomac River,
west of Seneca Creek
Seneca

This rectangular, 2 1/2 story gable roofed duplex was built c. 1830 of Seneca red sandstone. The stone was laid in irregular courses on the east and west facades and which is simply a rubble stone wall on the north and south gable ends. Large dressed blocks make up quoins, sills, and lintels, and parts of the east facade. Some of the same smooth blocks were used as paving, leading to the two east doors.

Each floor of each unit of the duplex contained two rooms. A single fireplace was located in each west room. One dormer on each side of the roof lights the attic chambers. On the east (front) facade, the two doors were in the outer two of the four bays. Above each first floor opening was a second floor window. The west facade bears the same fenestration as the east, including the doors. The north and south gable ends contained no openings.

The Quarry Master's House is a significant example of the duplex form circa 1830, interpreted in local Seneca red sandstone. As an integral part of the quarry complex, the house represents company and community efforts to house foremen of the work crews. Though badly vandalized, its shell is structurally intact and it displays important characteristics of stone workmanship, refinement, and detailing.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M:17-54

MAGI # 1603754504

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Quarry Master's House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Seneca Creek State Park

CITY, TOWN

=

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☒ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Taylor Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21401

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Court House

Liber #: 5048

Folio #: 362

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Quarry Master's House, situated south of River Road and above the red sandstone quarries which border the Potomac River, is a rectangular, two-and-one-half story, gable-roofed duplex. A full fledged double house, it possesses a plan which is divisible by a full height party wall into two equal parts, each accessible by its own individual front and rear doors and each characterized by a simple disposition of rooms (with living and cooking areas on the first floor, bedrooms and storage on the second, and attic floors, respectively) arranged around first floor fireplaces, the flues of which share a central chimney.

The exterior walls of this building are constructed entirely of Seneca red sandstone which has been laid in irregular courses on the east and west facades and which is simply a rubble stone wall on the north and south gable ends. Judging by the quality and degree of the working of the stone blocks on the east facade and the proportion of these finely-milled stones to the more roughly surfaced blocks, the east side appears to be the principal entrance facade. From left to right (southeast to northeast corner) the first story is punctuated by window, door, door, window openings. These openings are surmounted on the second story level by four equal-sized windows. The window sash is not presently discernable, as the openings have been completely boarded shut in an effort to prevent further vandalism. Each window surround consists of a smooth finished sandstone lintel positioned flush to the wall whose equal extension a few inches beyond the opening on either side is matched by the slightly projecting, smooth finished sandstone sill. Simple timber surrounds also remain in place. The twin doorways are topped by similar flush lintels. The corners are detailed with quoining which results from the alternative placement of large, finely milled stones with their small and large faces at right angles to one another.

The west facade consists of a similar first floor window, door, door, window system with four equal-sized windows above at second story level, and two window dormers projecting from the tin (standing seam) roof. The same window treatment is employed of smooth and flush lintels, and projecting sills, but in general more randomly worked stones interspersed with unworked pieces prevail in this face of the building.

North and south gable ends are identical stone rubble walls, except that the south gable above the attic floor level has been punched out by vandals, and stones removed to form a gaping hole which has left the attic story open to the elements and ripe for further deterioration.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	regional economic development	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1830

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Quarry Master's House is a significant example of the duplex form circa 1830 interpreted in local Seneca red sandstone. As an integral member of the quarry complex (which also includes the quarries themselves; the stone cutting mill; the turning and loading basin where the barges were loaded),¹ and the Seneca schoolhouse, it represents company and community efforts to house foremen of the work crews. Though badly vandalized, its shell is structurally intact and it displays important characteristics of stone workmanship, refinement and detailing.

The importance regionally of Seneca sandstone, or Seneca redstone as it was also called, is well known. It was quoined for use in James Renwick's Smithsonian (c. 1848) and parts of the Court of Claims (Renwick Building 1859) as well as the Pension office building (1883), in addition to numerous major manor houses in the Seneca area such as Rocklands and Montevideo.²

The development of the quarrying complex is closely connected with the history of the building of the C&O Canal from 1828 onward. A number of craftsmen were employed in this project, selected for their facility in stoneworking. Though the original intent was for the canal to extend from Georgetown to Pittsburgh, Pa., it was ultimately completed only to Cumberland.³ By 1831, the portion of the canal from Seneca to Georgetown was operative; by 1834, the canal and the accompanying flow of traffic and economic and commercial activity stretched to Harper's Ferry; In 1850 the entire canal was formally opened, 184 1/2 miles in total length from Georgetown to Cumberland.⁴ Thirty-seven miles of this canal threaded Montgomery County and, until the quarries ceased operations in about 1900, it provided an important route for transportation of the stone quarried here. The canal itself was closed down in 1924.⁴

¹Cutchin, Janine B.: The Quarry Master's House, Seneca, Md., student paper, p. 10, University of Md., Spring 1978.

²Ibid., op cit.

³Hiebert, Ray Eldon and MacMaster, Richard K.: A Grateful Remembrance: The Story of Montgomery County, Maryland, p. 102-3, Montgomery County Government, Rockville, 1976.

⁴Ibid., op cit.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Boyd, Thomas H.S.: History of Montgomery County, Maryland from Its Earliest Settlement in 1650-1879, Clarksburg, 1879.
- Cutchin, Janine B.: The Quarry Master's House, Seneca, Maryland, student paper, p. 10, University of Maryland, Spring 1978.
- Hiebert, Ray Eldon and MacMaster, Richard K.: A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland, Montgomery County Government, CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY Rockville, 1976.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ellen Coxe, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

March 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

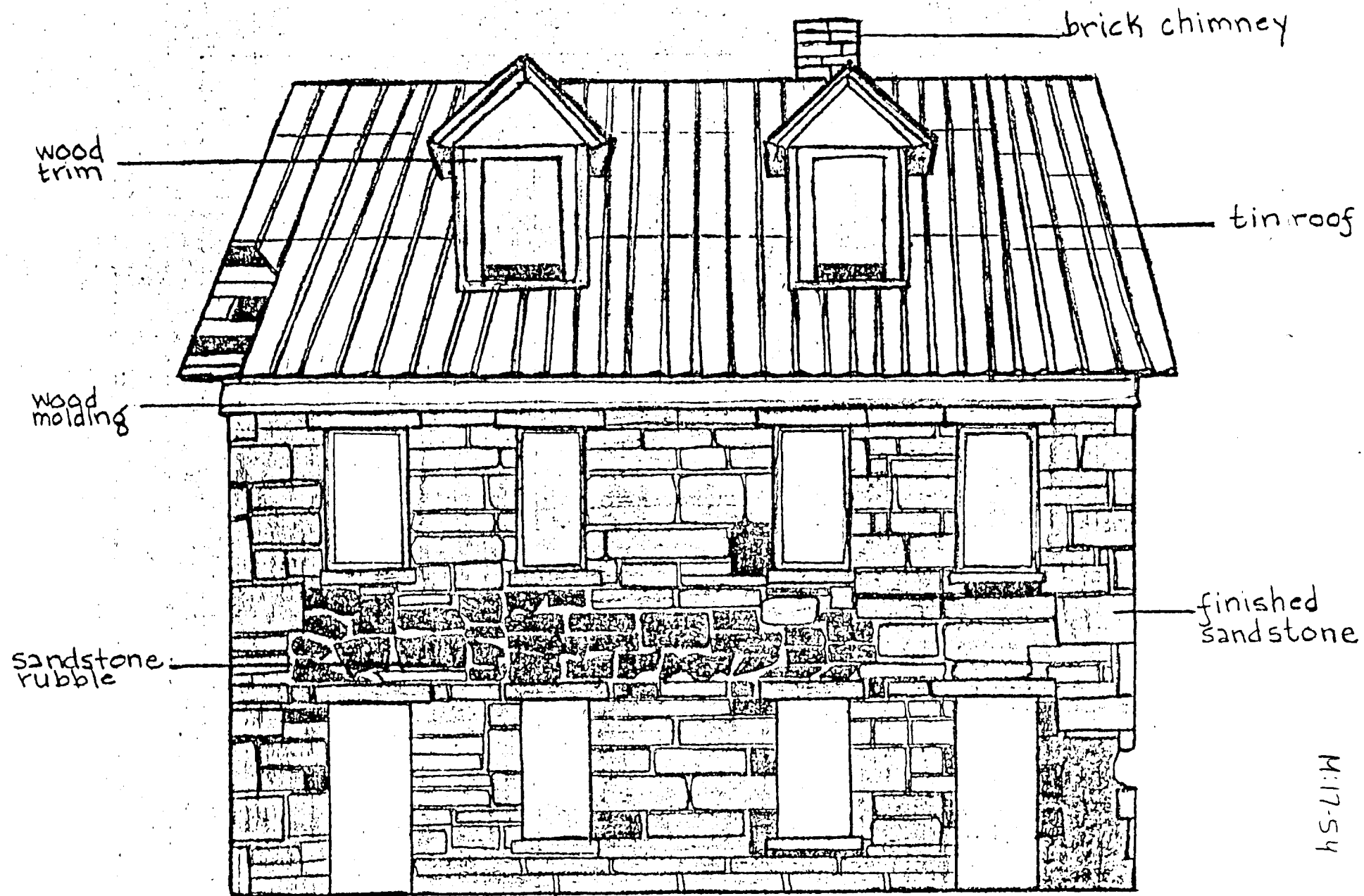
CONTINUATION SHEET

Quarry Master's House

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 1

Sanderlin, Walter S.: The Great National Project: A History of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, Johns Hopkins Studies, LXIV, No. 1, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, 1946.



EAST FRONT ELEVATION

DRAWN BY: JANINE D. CATCHIN

PLATE 16

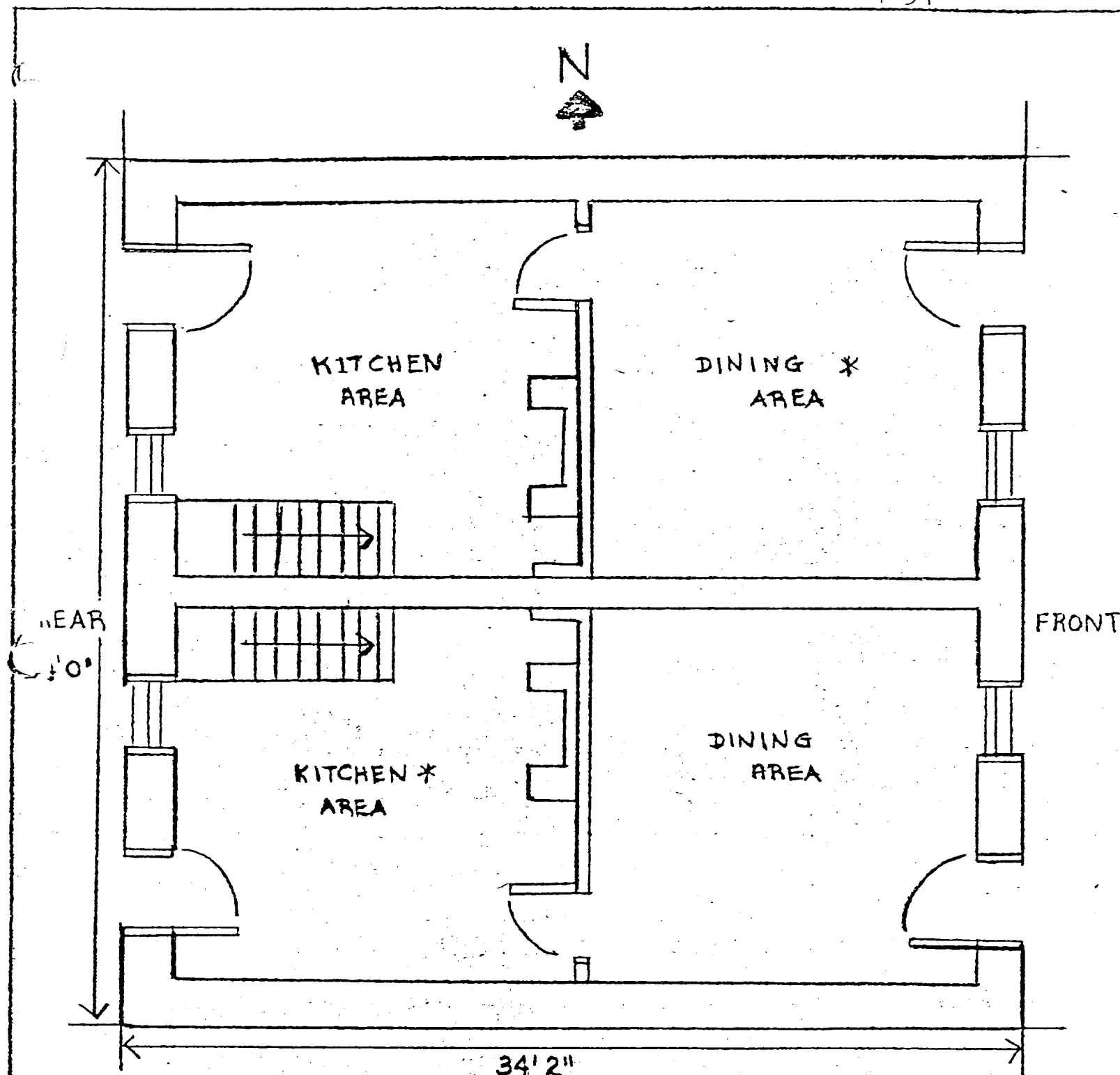
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QUARRY MASTER'S HOUSE

M:17-54

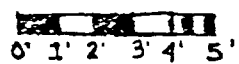
34.

M:17-54



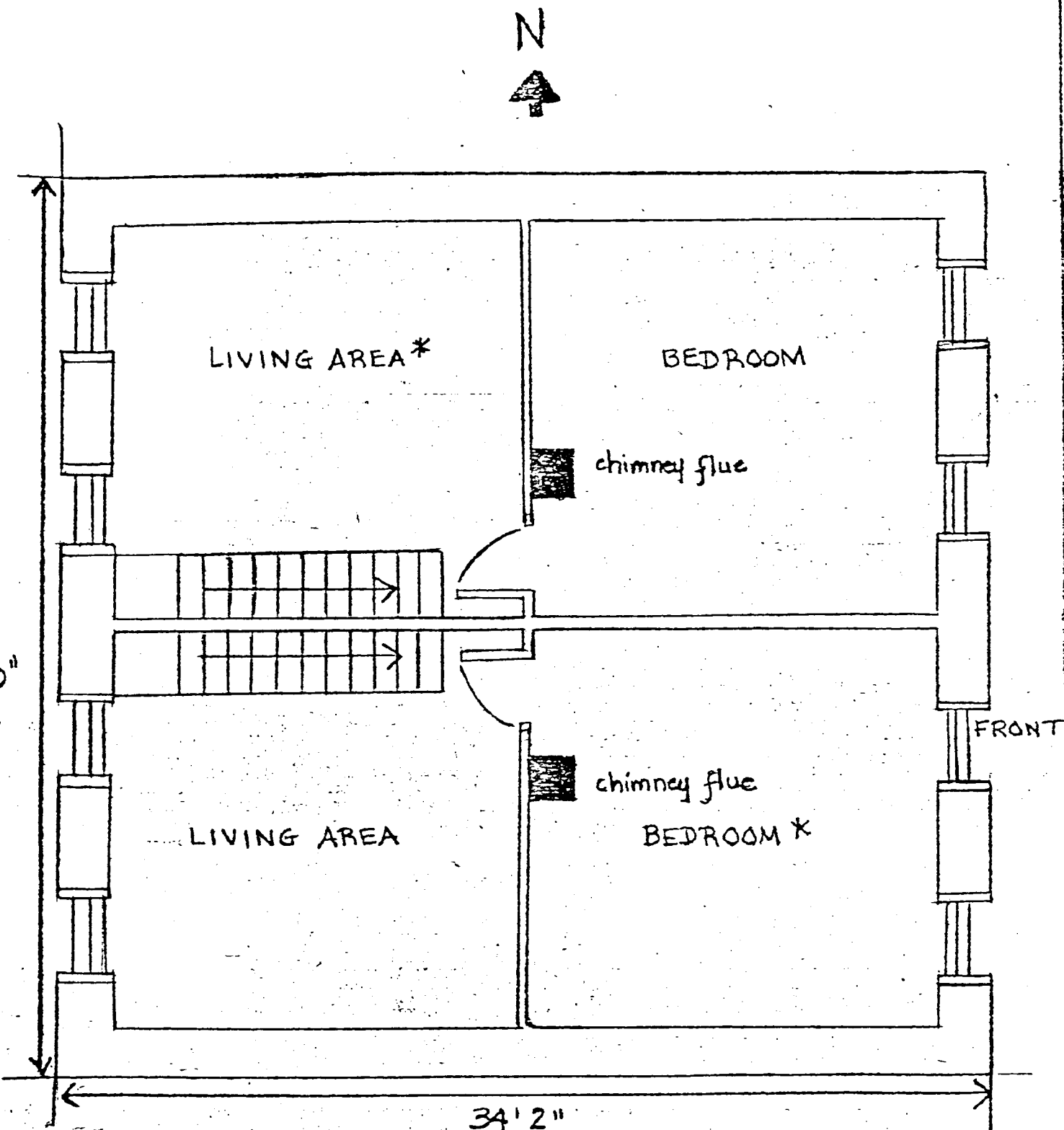
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: $\frac{3}{16}" = 1'0"$



DRAWN BY JANINE B. CUTCHIN

* function according to Ray Riley



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

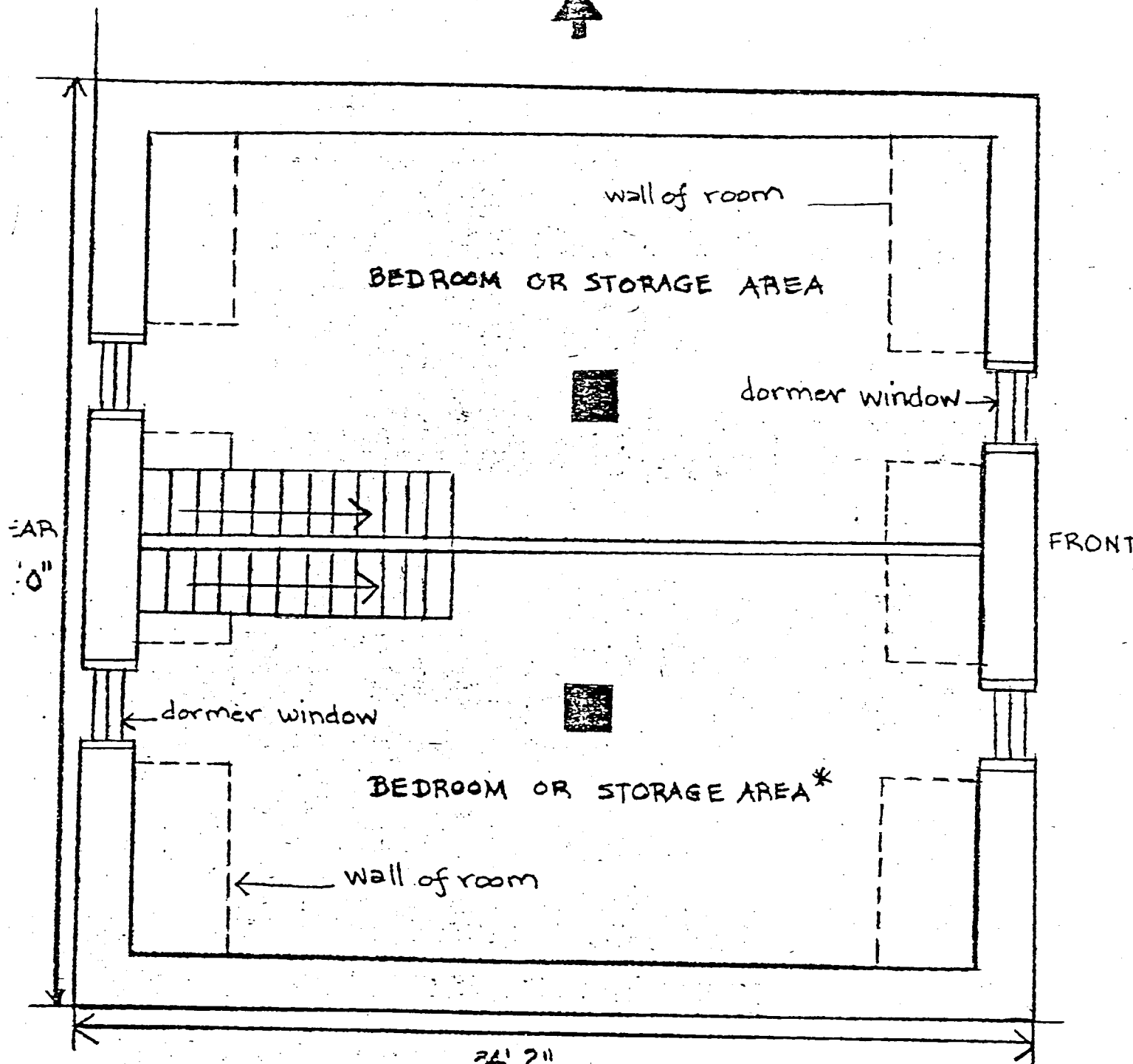
SCALE : $\frac{3}{16}'' = 1'0''$

0' 1' 2' 3' 4' 5'

DRAWN BY JANINE B. WITCHIN

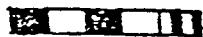
* function according to Ray Riley

M.17.54



THIRD FLOOR PLAN

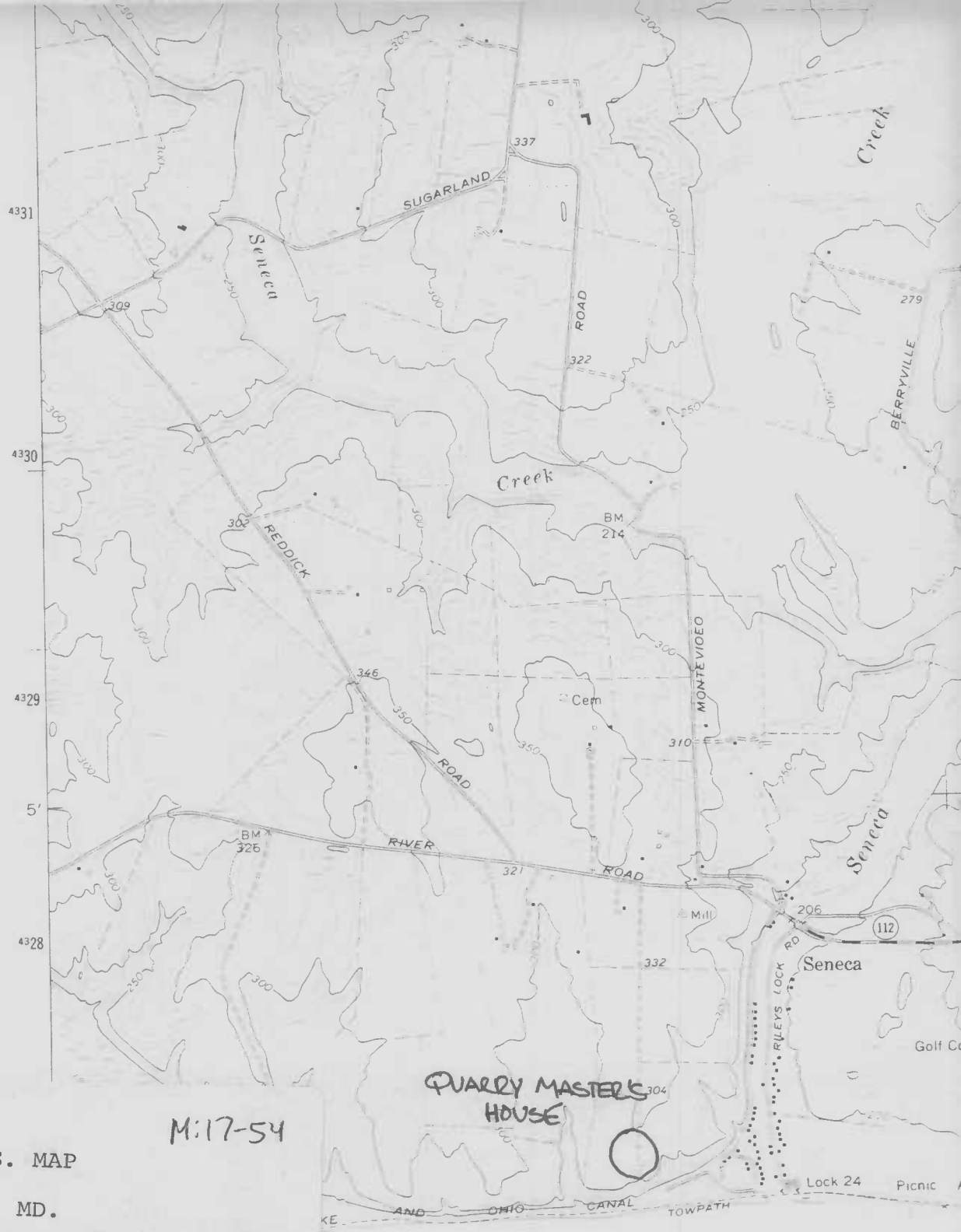
SCALE: $\frac{3}{16}'' = 1'0''$



0' 1' 2' 3' 4' 5'

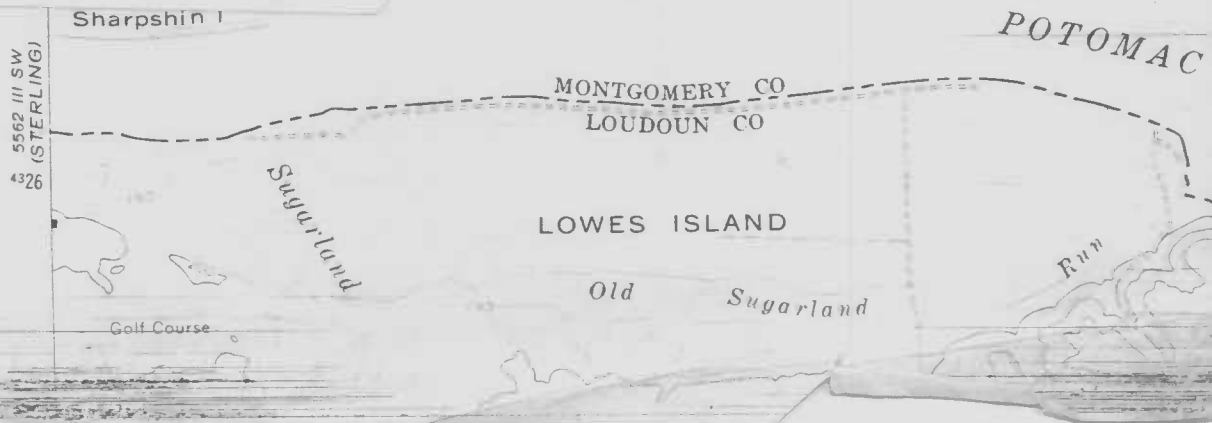
DRAWN BY JANINE B. CUTCHIN

* function according to Ray Riley



U.S.G.S. MAP
SENECA, MD.

M:17-54





M 17-54;DNR-34

Quarry Master's House
Seneca State Park
Seneca, Maryland

SW Elevation

Mont.Cty.Hist.Soc.





M 17-54;DNR-34

Quarry Master's House
Seneca State Park
Seneca, Maryland

NW Elevation

Mont.Cty.Hist.Soc.



M 17-54; SEN/DNR 34
QUARRY MASTER'S HOUSE
GENECA STATE PARK

8/78; BMD

W. FACADE
5



M 17-54 ; SEN/DNR 34
QUARRY MASTER'S HOUSE
SENECA STATE PARK
8/48, BMD
CORNER DETAIL



M 17-54; SEN/DNR 34

QUARRY MASTER'S HOUSE

SENECA STATE PARK

8/78 BMD

DETAIL: E. FACADE AT GROUND LEVEL



M 17-54; SEN/DNR 34

QUARRY MASTER'S HOUSE,
SENECA STATE PARK

8/78 BMD

INTERIOR, ATTIC: ^{SOUTH}~~NORTH~~ GABLE



M 17-54; SEN/DNR 34

QUARRY MASTER'S HOUSE

SENECA STATE PARK

8/78, BMD

INTERIOR DET., STAIR HALL, 2ND FLOOR



M. #17-54 QUARRY-MASTERS' HOUSE
ON BLUFF ABOVE SENECA QUARRY
SENECA, MD

PHOTO Ca. 1940's ? '50's FROM MONT. CO. MD HIST. SOC